

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 590 – SB 1739

March 30, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Agriculture Crimes Unit of the Department of Agriculture to inspect livestock in response to an allegation of animal cruelty prior to an inspection by a county agricultural extension agent.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$421,900/FY11-12
\$651,300/FY12-13
\$496,900/FY13-14 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions:

- According to the University of Tennessee Extension Program, the Program has averaged 1,055 animal cruelty cases per year for the past three years.
- According to the Department of Agriculture (TDOA), the Department will require eight officers to investigate the 1,055 annual cases currently investigated by Extension Program agents. Four officers will be hired in FY11-12 and four additional officers will be hired in FY12-13 as the caseload increases. The result will be a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$231,148 [(\$33,888 salaries + \$12,731 benefits + \$8,333 travel + \$1,057 phone and communications + \$1,778 supplies) x 4 officers] in FY11-12.
- The recurring increase in state expenditures for the eight officers will be \$462,296 (\$231,148 salaries x 2) beginning in FY12-13.
- TDOA will train and equip four new officers in both FY11-12 and FY12-13 for one-time increases in state expenditures of \$154,400 in FY11-12 and FY12-13. These expenditures will cover the costs of vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, radios, uniforms, weapons, laptop computers, and other supplies and materials.
- TDOA will hire one Administrative Assistant 1 position to answer complaint calls and manage the work load. The recurring increase in state expenditures will be \$34,648 (\$23,304 salary + \$10,344 benefits + \$500 communications + \$500 supplies).
- TDOA will purchase a computer and radio for the Administrative Assistant resulting in a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$1,750 (\$1,250 computer + \$500 radio).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/sbh